

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

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C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 3410

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, PO

SUBJECT: SECVISIT UNGA: BRIEFING FOR SECRETARY'S MEETING
WITH PORTUGUESE FOREIGN MINISTER -
SUGGESTED TOPICS

1. SUMMARY: FORTHCOMING AZORES NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE MAIN
TOPIC AT SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH PATRICIO. OTHER ISSUES
LIKELY TO BE IMPLEMENTATION OF 1971 AZORES AGREEMENT, AND
ANTICIPATED GOP DIFFICULTIES AT UNGA. END SUMMARY

2. PRINCIPAL EMPHASIS WILL BE ON AZORES. IT LIKELY THAT
PATRICIO WILL ASK WHAT USG HAS IN MIND FOR QUID PRO
QUO IN THIS NEW ROUND. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE EFFECTIVE
TO SEEK AT OUTSET TO DISABUSE PATRICIO OF IDEA THAT THIS
NEGOTIATION WILL FOLLOW PATTERN OF THAT OF 1969-71, WHICH
GOP MAY PERCEIVE AS SUCCESSION OF EXPRESSIONS OF
DISSATISFACTION ON PORTUGUESE SIDE, AND SUCCESSION OF
INCREASED ANTES ON US SIDE. NATO ROLE OF LAJES SHOULD BE
STRESSED, WITH REFERENCE TO GOP'S NOT INCONSIDERABLE
CONTRIBUTION TO JOINT DEFENSE, AND SUGGESTION BY US SIDE
THAT THIS CONTRIBUTION COULD USEFULLY BE EMPHASIZED IN DEALING
WITH OTHER NATO POWERS. SECRETARY MIGHT CITE CHANGE OF HOST
SERVICE AT LAJES AS INTERNAL USG EVIDENCE OF NEW ROLE OF AZORES.

3. PATRICIO IS LIKELY TO RAISE IMPLEMENTATION OF
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1971 AGREEMENT, AND FACT THAT NO ITEMS UNDER \$5 MILLION

NON-MILITARY DRAWING RIGHTS HAVE BEEN PROVIDED PORTUGAL. WE BELIEVE PATRICIO MINDFUL OF US-GOP EFFORTS TO MAKE THIS PROVISION WORK, THAT HE RECOGNIZES (AS IN SEPTEMBER 4 CONVERSATION WITH CHARGE) THAT THIS PROVISION IS SIMPLY UNWORKABLE, AND THAT NO BLAME LIES WITH EITHER SIDE. HE SHOULD BE ASSURED WE DO NOT CONSIDER ISSUE DEAD LETTER, AND ARE CONTINUING TO SEEK OUT AREAS WHERE PORTUGUESE NEEDS COINSIDE WITH USG AVAILABILITIES.

4. WHILE WE DOUBT PATRICIO WILL RAISE ISSUE, WE KNOW GOP EXPECTS TO HAVE A DIFFICULT TIME AT UNGA. PROBABLY SEATING OF LIBERATION MOVEMENT REPRESENTATIVES IN MANY COMMITTEES WILL, AS LAST YEAR, RESULT IN PORTUGUESE BOYCOTT WHILE REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT. POSSIBLE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE OF GUINEA BY PAIGC WILL PUT GOP IN STILL MORE DISADVANTAGEOUS POSITION, FACING DIFFICULT CHOICES BETWEEN BREAKING RELATIONS WITH COUNTRIES WHICH RECOGNIZE NEW ENTITY.

5. WE DOUBT ECONOMIC ISSUES WILL BE RAISED BY GOP SIDE, AND RECOMMEND NONE FOR SECRETARY TO RAISE. LAJES LANDING ISSUE FOR PANAM IS QUIESCENT FOR TIME BEING.
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